

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

FROM:

RID/

An

NOTE: In the absence of comments or indication of action taken, this cover sheet will be destroyed when the document is filed.

COMMENTS

	TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
			RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
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cc EE/A chrono

1 to 5: This is apparently reply to WTC's suggestion that existing arms caches be checked. This report is extremely pertinent to current discussion re additional caching. No sine EE/Plans a Thermofax. Inclined to think that relatively good state of old caches further downgrades need for any extensive additional caching. You might also discuss survival kit info (from OP/PM) with

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

6 RECROOND / SUPP

ENCLOSURE	ABSTRACT	FILE NUMBER 6-124-27/2
	INDEX	
DATE MICROFILMED	DOCUMENT DATE 20 July 1959	DOCUMENT NUMBER EASA-05215

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DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. HAAS-5215
TO INFO	Chief of Station, Vienna Chief, EE		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. 6-124-27/3 6-124-27/2
FROM	Chief of Base, Salzburg	DATE 20 JUL 1959	
SUBJECT	GROOVI/GRORCOOND/SUPPORT Status of Arms Caches	RE: "43-3" - (CHECK "X" ONE)	
		MARKED FOR INDEXING	
		NO INDEXING REQUIRED	
ACTION REQUIRED	Vienna and Headquarters approval of plan outlined in paragraph 5 below.	IX	INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY
REFERENCE(S)	<p>HAAS-13043, 2 June 1959</p> <p>SUMMARY</p> <p>1. We believe, for reasons outlined below, that most of the 1954 Arms Caches are still serviceable. Therefore, there appears to be no pressing need for recovery and inspection of one of these caches. However, under proper circumstances we intend to carry out an inspection/recovery as a final check on our conclusion. We believe that while the 1951 and 1952 caches are not generally serviceable they should be retained on the books as emergency or supplementary caches with the idea that a partially useable cache is better than no cache. The only indication we have that the caches asked about in reference were recovered are cryptic markings on a cache chart.</p> <p>1954 Arms Caches</p> <p>2. We believe that most of the 1954 Arms Caches would be serviceable upon recovery if the individual items are covered with seal-peel (also spelled seal-peel) as cache inventories indicate. This conclusion is based on the findings made upon recovery of 1951 Arms Cache No. 6 undertaken in September 1953 (a copy of an unlettered, undated report on this is forwarded under separate cover) and a cache recovery made by [redacted] in April 1958. The 1953 report describes the condition of ten recovered pistols: "Outside of box wrapped in same manner (fastened with nails) with tar paper. Wooden box was wet and some water had entered the box. Pistols and holsters were wrapped in individual containers. Pistols were additionally wrapped in tin foil first and then appeared to be dipped in 'seal-peel'. All weapons and holsters were in perfect condition." This cache was in clay soil with very poor drainage. The pistols were the only items which "appeared" to have been dipped in seal-peel. The other items wrapped with foil and waterproof paper did not fare so well (BARs, rifles, etc.).</p> <p>3. In April 1958 [redacted] and GRINFANTE recovered a carbine with 100 rounds of ammunition which had been in the ground since 1955, over one year of this time in water and mud. (A nearby stream had apparently changed course enough to hold the site almost constantly under water.) The carbine and ammunition had been wrapped in waterproof paper, dipped in seal-peel and then nailed up in wooden boxes. Upon recovery the wooden boxes were full of water and rotting; the weapon and ammunition though were in perfect condition.</p> <p>4. It appears that seal-peel had given the cached items in these two instances (altogether eleven weapons) satisfactory protection against water and moisture under very poor burial conditions for as long as three years. On this basis, then, we assume the material in the 1954 caches is in generally good condition and can be counted on for wartime use. We believe though that although an inspection of one of these caches is not absolutely necessary, it would verify our conclusion and remove further doubt as to usability. In view of our belief that the caches are still good, we prefer not to touch the majority of them. These fall into two categories:</p>		
FORM 10-57 53 (40)	USE PREVIOUS EDITION. REPLACES FORMS 51-28, 51-28A AND 51-29 WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.	CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	CONTINUED XX
		PAGE NO. 1.	

CONTINUATION OF DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. BARA-5215
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1) Those which are too close to houses or populated areas to allow secure recovery without having control of the area. (Unfortunately this same situation would probably face agents attempting a wartime recovery.)

2) Those which are secluded and in ground with good drainage.

We prefer not to exclude caches in the latter category because they are the most likely to be serviceable and could be recovered most securely by agents in wartime; therefore, recovery would be undesirable. It is possible that a small (five-man) 1954 cache is buried in secluded but poor ground. If we can find such a cache, we will recover it. (In six spot checks of 1954 caches, found them all to be in the first two categories.) An inspection of a cache buried five years in water-soaked ground would provide a good check on the rest of the caches.

Plan for Cache Recovery

5. If a suitable cache is found, it will be recovered and checked during the course of SIB's caching project in late August 1959. The general plan to be followed will be that outlined for burial of caches in BARA-5212, 30 June 1959 (the procedure, of course, being reversed). The recovered material would be taken to GRAMMAL or GRISKIN. If it is not feasible to remove all of the equipment, sufficient samples will be removed (perhaps rifles only) and the rest will be re-buried following usual caching procedure.

1951 and 1952 Arms Caches

6. The 1951 and 1952 caches must be considered in a different light. On the basis of the cache recovery report mentioned in paragraph 2 above, we can assume they are all in varying states of decay. However, they should not be written off, but kept on the books as emergency or supplementary caches. Lacking any other source of supply, agents would probably find all or some of the following material in each cache still serviceable (these items are reported in good condition in the recovery report mainly because of waterproof commercial packing around individual items):

a. 72 pounds of C-3 explosive (in wax-dipped cardboard packages).

b. Blasting caps and Primacord (packed as above).

c. Safety fuse and other blasting accessories (safety fuse is usually waterproof in itself - for underwater detonation - so even if damp, this might still be serviceable if the ends were cut off).

d. .45 caliber pistols with holsters (in seal-pool).

e. The vacuum sealed ammunition may also still be usable.

In some cases other material and weapons in the cache (MMs, rifles and SMGs) might be made to function with a little mechanical aptitude, cannibalizing and simple tools. (put a French Lebel rifle on which the bolt was rusted shut and the barrel pitted into operating condition.) Rusty but functioning weapons would probably be better than no weapons (World War II guerrillas in the Philippines made and used a gaspipe cannon on the Japanese in at least one instance). The 1952 caches contain substantially less equipment than the 1951 caches. The former were designed for ten men, the latter for twenty-five men.

Possible Recovery of Two 1952 Caches

7. The only indications we have that Arms Caches 2A and 1A may have been recovered are pencil marks on a caching chart. An "x" had been placed over 1A and 1A; and while other records show that 1A has been pulled, there is no further indication that 1A has been recovered. A question mark was placed by Cache 2A on the chart. There is no indication when or by whom the marks were made.

Attachment: U/S/C

Distribution:
2 - Vienna; 2 - EE

6-124-27/2

FORM 10-57 53a (40)	USE PREVIOUS EDITION. REPLACES FORMS 51-28, 51-28A AND 51-29 WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.	CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	<div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUED </div>
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